

MONTANA MINERAL LAND

The Mineral Land Convention
Largely Attended by Promi-
nent Mining Men.

Steps to be Taken to Preserve the
Metal-Bearing Mountains
for the People.

Reports of the Executive and Financial
Committees—Mr. Mantle Declines a
Renomination.

The mineral land convention was called to order at half past 2 yesterday afternoon in the Enore hall by Hon. Lee Mantle, of Butte. John W. Baskett was made secretary. There was about 100 delegates present. Mr. Mantle, before any other business was done, said that considering the present somewhat unsettled condition of political affairs, and he might add, legislative affairs, he regarded it as a matter of sincere congratulation that so many citizens from every section of the state had been found who were willing to subordinate all questions of a merely private or personal consideration for the purpose of meeting on common ground and joining hands in the defense of the material interests of all the people of Montana. (Applause.) It had been hinted that there was something of a political nature or purpose involved in this question. He desired to affirm that so far as he was concerned there was nothing of a political aim or purpose. He also regarded it as a matter of congratulation that the issues to be considered were such as could be determined without the interposition of anything political or of partisan purposes. He believed in resisting by every lawful means the attempts which had been made to secure patents by the Northern Pacific railroad company. He would not take one inch of ground from that corporation that belonged to it, but on the contrary was in favor of any equitable and honest adjustment of the question. He believed that at this time the company was invading the rights of the people—that it was striving to wrest from the people of Montana the grandest and richest heritage ever given to a people on the face of the earth. He was also of the belief that it was the duty of every citizen of this great commonwealth to aid and assist by every lawful means the attempt of the railroad company to secure lands under the provisions of its charter it had not a shadow of legal right to. He also read a letter from Congressman Carter defining the status of the matter in the interior department and expressing Mr. Carter's sympathy with the movement. The speaker's remarks were loudly applauded.

Mantle was then renominated as president of the convention, but declined, and Dr. A. H. Mitchell, of Deer Lodge, was unanimously elected to fill that office. Hon. Z. T. Burton, late of the local land office in this city, gained the floor and pointed out that the wisest course to pursue would be to follow the mode of procedure provided by law. Col. W. F. Wheeler created some sensation by charging Burton with being in the Northern Pacific Railroad company. This Burton denied, but said he had some time ago acted as right of way agent for the company on its branch lines, but that he was no longer in the employ of that corporation. He also stated that he was heartily in sympathy with the purpose of the convention. He was applauded by the delegates when he finished speaking.

A. H. Nelson, a land lawyer, who has had seven years' experience in the interior department, recited the rulings of the department under different administrations bearing on the question. He had nothing to say against railroad companies so far as the development of the country was concerned, but they would claim these mineral lands and get them if they could. The law, he said, as laid down by the supreme court of the United States with reference to land grants was that the grant should be construed strictly against the grantee. Mr. Nelson impressed the delegates very favorably as being thoroughly posted on legislation affecting mineral lands.

The executive committee consisting of Edmund H. Irvine, Robert S. Kelly, John W. Baskett and Thomas G. Merrill then made its report stating that a pamphlet had been published giving a full account of the attempt of the Northern Pacific railroad company to acquire title to millions of acres of our mineral lands, and copies forwarded the president, secretary of the interior, commissioner of the general land office, our delegates in congress, and officials in Montana, Idaho and Washington to the number of 2,000. Maps were also prepared on a large scale showing all the mountainous mineral land and all the lands selected by the Northern Pacific railroad company, in each of the following counties, which were entirely or partially within the limits of the Northern Pacific land grant, Park, Madison, Gallatin, Beaverhead, Jefferson, Meagher, Cascade, Lewis and Clark, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow and Missoula. Thirteen sets of these maps were made and one set sent to each of the following: The president, secretary of the interior, commissioner of the general land office, and the following committees in congress, on territories, Pacific railroads, public lands and mines and mining, delegate in congress and 500 copies distributed throughout Montana to aid in furnishing information in the preparation of affidavits.

Letters setting forth the claims of the railroad company and the congressional action necessary to prevent the company from acquiring patents to these lands were forwarded to each member of congress. Letters from about eighty senators and members were received in response, many of which expressed full sympathy with the effort made and a desire to co-operate in securing such legislation as would preserve mineral lands to the United States. Affidavits were procured from about twelve hundred citizens of Montana showing the value of our mountainous lands for their minerals, other than coal and iron. A part of these affidavits were general in character, covering certain districts, but a large proportion of them specific, covering certain townships and subdivisions, and embracing in all about five million acres of mountainous lands. These affidavits were all sent to Secretary Vilas by registered mail and the receipts of his clerk returned in each instance. Copies were made and sworn to, a precaution, the importance of which had been realized during the last thirty days.

Plans were prepared and forwarded to the secretary of the interior showing the large number of valuable mining properties on the land selected by the railroad company in the Oro Fino district, Deer Lodge county, and in the vicinity of Butte, and surveys were made showing their exact location. Petitions were obtained from more than three thousand of the prominent mining and business men of Montana and presented to congress from time to time setting forth the danger to mineral lands and asking for such legislation as would preserve these mineral lands forever to our citizens. Additional petitions were also obtained and presented to the last territorial legislature, asking for the passage of a memorial to congress, showing the imminent danger to our mineral lands, and asking for needed legislation.

During the past few months, parties in Washington were requested to call the attention of the commissioner of the general land office and the secretary of the interior

to the proofs, accompanied by maps, which had been forwarded to the secretary of the interior, and they could not be found.

On the 12th of August, 1889, the attorney of the railroad company in his argument before the department claimed that the exceptions of mineral land from the grant were only such lands as were known to be mineral on the 2d day of July, 1864, when the act was made a law.

On the 26th day of August, 1889, in the case of the Banker mine, the acting commissioner used the following words in a letter to the register and receiver at Helena:

"It was error therefore to allow the application for the lode claim embracing ground already selected by said railroad company, which was an appropriation of the land." These facts coming to light made it evident that there was danger that patents to the 2,000,000 acres of our mineral land selected by this company would be made at once, and that it was a matter of great importance that the facts should be presented to the secretary of the interior and the commissioner of the general land office by some one personally interested, and the chairman of this committee went to Washington with certified copies of all affidavits, maps and plats and presented the facts fully to the secretary and commissioner for the first time.

The affidavits, maps and plats which had been forwarded were found after diligent search in the office of the assistant attorney general, who was not aware of their existence. The funds to pay the expenses of this work were raised entirely by Mr. J. N. Fox, of Deer Lodge, who accompanied the chairman to Washington and rendered valuable assistance in this effort to prevent the issuance of patents.

The following letter was sent to the secretary of the interior.

Dear Sir:—As chairman of the Citizens' Executive committee of the Montana Mineral Land convention, organized for the purpose of preventing the Northern Pacific Railroad company from acquiring title to the vast areas of our gold, silver, copper and lead-bearing mineral lands on which are thousands of recorded mining properties bearing the precious metals, which would be unjustly taken from their rightful owners if this attempt to secure patents to these lands should succeed, I beg leave to submit the following requests: First: That you will cause an examination of the lands selected by the Northern Pacific Railroad company in the following townships as to their mineral character, to determine whether they are such lands as were excluded from their grant.

Second: That pending the determination of their mineral character you will withhold all patents to these lands. Respectfully,

THOMAS G. MERRILL, Chairman.

To this letter was appended a list of all the townships in which selections had been made by this company in the mountainous portions of Montana. The answer received was that the matter had been referred to the general land office.

The committee then say that the safest course, it would seem, is to secure this examination of these lands as to their mineral character, which will probably require congressional action to prevent patents from being issued to this company. In the meantime it may be necessary to enter contests on the selections of the company. This matter being of such vital interest to every miner, prospector, business and professional man in Montana, it would seem as though it should be the duty of the legislature and executive branches of the government of Montana to take this matter in hand, and provide means and a person properly authorized to contest the mineral lands selected by this company, there being no immediate prospect for obtaining such action, and it being absolutely necessary to have some means to continue this work, permit us to suggest the propriety of effecting a permanent incorporation by incorporating the Montana mineral land association, and all contributors to this work to receive stock in this association.

The report of the finance committee was then read showing the total receipts to be \$3,473.04; disbursements, \$3,447.15, leaving a balance of \$25.89.

Mantle suggested that two committees be appointed, one on resolutions, and the other to recommend a course of action. These committees were merged into one consisting of:

R. O. Hickman, L. B. Olds, Madison county.

Lee Mantle, J. B. Clark, Silver Bow county.

N. Merriman, Will Kennedy, Jefferson county.

Wm. Facer, J. H. Owen, J. C. Robinson, Deer Lodge county.

C. R. Gidden, Park county.

Walter Cooper, Gallatin county.

A. C. Witter, Beaverhead county.

John Woodson, Meagher county.

T. G. Merrill, A. H. Nelson, Lewis and Clark county.

The convention then adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning.

"Large line of music boxes at The Bee Hive ranging from 75 cents to \$150.

"Thou Shalt Not," "His Private Character," "Allan's Wife by Haggard," and other leading novels just received at The Bee Hive.

District Court Record.

The following business was transacted in the district court Tuesday and yesterday:

Jarl Kleinschmidt vs. R. H. Kleinschmidt et al. On trial.

State of Montana vs. James Dolan; charged with assault. Defendant arraigned and allowed until Monday to plead.

State of Montana vs. Elmer V. Chamberlain; charged with assault with deadly weapon. Arraigned and given until Monday to plead.

A marriage license was granted to John C. Campbell and Maud M. Mariett, of Alhambra.

NOTARY SEALS—New ones made and old ones changed. C. E. Kemp, Helena, Mont.

The Bee Hive is selling a complete stand lamp for 25 cents—a big bargain.

The celebrated Foster lace kid gloves in all shades at The Bee Hive for \$1.15.

Removed.

Pope & O'Connor have removed their stock of drugs and apothecary's material to the elegant store-room in the Bailey block, where they will have more room to attend to the wants of their customers and the requirements of their increasing trade. Give them a call in their new store.

Mr. August Pack of the California Wine House, exports general invitation to all his friends and patrons to partake of an elegant Thanksgiving turkey lunch, to be served at 10 a. m.

No assortment of toys and holiday goods in the city can compare with the display at The Bee Hive.

Don Davenport Coal Company, sole agents for Cinnabar cooking coal.

In Another Column.

See Louvre bill of fare for to-day.

Have You Got Two Nickels?

If you want a bottle of first-class claret or white wine, delivered to your house, the place to get a good quality at ten cents per bottle is at

Oppenheimer & Co., International Hotel.

Caledonians, Attention.

Tickets for the St. Andrew's banquet (Saturday, the 30th inst.) are for sale at Calkin's & Featherly's, R. C. Wallace's, Lindsey & Co., and at Woolman's shoe store; price \$3. The banquet will be held at the Crystal restaurant (Harvey block), Grand street.

The largest line of table and pocket cutlery in the city can be found at The Bee Hive.

THE MINES OF MONTANA.

Good Reports From Various Sections
of Several Well Known
Mining Properties.

The Elkhorn Company at Last Re-
ceives Its Patent for the
A. M. Holter Lode.

The Major Budd and the Mines of Oro
Fino District—The Rise in
Copper.

The mineral land convention has brought together a large number of Montana's prominent mining men who have good reports from all sections. At the land office yesterday, the patent for the A. M. Holter lode at Elkhorn was received. It is No. 1099 and was entered at the local office May 14, 1884 and up to within ten days ago had been contested by T. T. Nicholson, but after all these years the company has been victorious. Henry Bratnaber leaves for the Elkhorn mine this morning. The operations at the mine are now conducted under his supervision, principally that of prospecting below the 800 foot level.

The recent developments of the Major Budd have been of such a satisfactory character that arrangements are now being made to have the mine pay for itself. In the 300 foot cross-cut from the big tunnel some very high grade ore was struck last week, the pay streak being over two feet wide and assaying as high as 300 ounces. From this cross-cut an up-raise is being made to the surface for ventilation purposes, and the 80 foot winze will be put down further. About two weeks ago a carload of low grade ore was sacked from the dump and shipped to the Pueblo works. The owners did not think much of the ore but just shipped it for an experiment, and a few days ago a check for \$123, the net result of the shipment after deducting all expenses was received. With these results the company feels that the mine is in condition to pay for its development, and no effort is being made to sell stock. In St. Louis the stock is dull and quoted at 23 cents, with few transfers. Ten days ago the stock was worth 35 cents.

Mountain Lion stock has had a heavy drop in the St. Louis market, and is now down to 7 cents. Thos. Strang, an old-time assayer of Deer Lodge, who is in the city, told an independent reporter that he learned Thursday from Superintendent Gable that in the Mountain Lion lode he had struck some rich stringers of ore were encountered, which is now being sacked, and in the course of a week Superintendent Gable will ship a carload to St. Louis. Mr. Strang said that in Deer Lodge the stock cannot be bought for less than 30 cents.

Dr. A. H. Mitchell reports that the Champion has resumed ore shipping, the ore being treated at the local smelter. On the 300-foot level he says an 8-foot ledge is being opened up, the pay streak being in the foot wall and averages four feet wide. Two cars per week are being shipped varying from 1,000 to 1,200 tons net. The Gospel Mountain is still running and taking out some good ore on the 200 where an 8-foot ledge is being developed, the foot wall containing the pay streak. A new mining enterprise in Deer Lodge county is the Blackfoot mining and milling company. They are developing the Black foot lode, which is said to carry 50 per cent. copper.

The Phoenix lode, half a mile from the Champion, and the Mildred, one and one-half miles distant, are mines upon which work has recently been resumed and are giving good account of themselves.

The Little Dandy in Meagher county is producing twenty tons of ore per day now, which is being crushed at the company's ten stamp mill. Robert Kelly, ex-United States marshal, reports that some very fine ore is being taken out by the Southern Cross. In Butte, he says, 50 cents is offered for this stock, and he recommends owners to hold on to their shares.

Ball's Broadway Photo. Gallery.

Shadow and scroll cabinets. Babies and children a specialty. Ball's gallery, Broadway, opposite Merchants hotel.

500 pairs of skates just received at The Bee Hive.

Heavy leather soled hip rubber boots at cost at Bryan's Gun Store, 103 Broadway.

Dr. Dogge.

Discharges of women a specialty. Sixth avenue and Main street.

Buy the Bissel carpet sweeper and save labor, dust and furniture—the greatest invention of the century, only \$2.10 at The Bee Hive.

Barney & Berry's skates at The Bee Hive.

Dinner sets, handsomely decorated, 112 pieces only \$14 at The Bee Hive.

Ball's Cabinets \$3 Per Dozen.

Cabinet photos \$3 per dozen at Ball's gallery, Helena avenue, corner Warren, on our line.

Lead pencils 10 cents per dozen at The Bee Hive.

Thanksgiving Dinner Benefit of A. M. E. Church.

In basement of Granite block, Main street, under Y. M. C. A. rooms. The best dinner in the city for 50 cents. Opossum, sweet potatoes, turkey, chicken, etc. Come and help us out.

Ladies should call at Fred Gerner's and get a pair of slippers, as he is selling them at a very low figure.

Ladies' merino underwear only \$1 per suit at The Bee Hive.

Tea sets for children in large variety at The Bee Hive.

Silverware for holiday and wedding presents at The Bee Hive.

Ladies' and children's underwear and hosiery at The Bee Hive at greatly reduced prices.

25 Per Cent Discount.

On all suits and trappings for thirty days only. JOHN B. JOHNSON.

The Bee Hive is selling a box of writing paper and envelopes for 25 cents, worth 50 cents.

China-ware and glassware in endless variety at The Bee Hive. Prices lower than at any other house in the city.

Before buying your holiday goods call at The Bee Hive.

Pioneer Club.

There will be a meeting of the Pioneer Dancng Club this Saturday evening at 7:30 sharp, at the office of DeLacy, Loeb & Co., rooms 20 and 21 Gold block. A full attendance is desired.

DON DAVENPORT, Sec'y.

HELENA IN BRIEF.

G. W. Jackson, music dealer.
Dinner from 12 to 5 at the Bon Ton.
James W. Barker, merchant tailor, Main street, opposite First National bank.
Hubert, Nicholson & Co. are now prepared to furnish fine dry wood in any quantity. Telephone 243. Office opposite S. F. freight depot.

Go east via the Montana Central and Manitoba railways, the new sleeping and dining car route to St. Paul and the east. Through trains leave Helena daily at 11:35 a. m.

Buy one of those decorated tea sets containing 50 pieces only \$6.50 at The Bee Hive.

Ming's Opera House.

JOHN MAGUIRE, MANAGER.

ONE WEEK,
Beginning Monday, Nov. 25.

Engagement of the Eminent Actress.

CHARLOTTE THOMPSON,

Supported by an efficient Dramatic Company, presenting a series of Miss Thompson's most attractive plays, as follows:

THURSDAY AFTERNOON—JANE EYRE. Thanksgiving Matinee.

THURSDAY NIGHT—EAST LYNNE, or the ELOPEMENT.

FRIDAY NIGHT—HEARTS ASTRAY.

SATURDAY MATINEE—EAST LYNNE.

SATURDAY NIGHT—DRIFTING CLOUDS.

Seats on sale Saturday morning at Pope & O'Connor's, Bailey block.

Ming's Opera House.

JOHN MAGUIRE, Manager.

2 NIGHTS ONLY 2
Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 2 & 3
and Tuesday Matinee.

America's Greatest Novelty!

M. B. LEAVITT'S Magnificent Production of Fraser & Gill's Spectacular Pantomime Burlesque.

SPIDER and FLY!

Illustrated by a Grand Company of FIFTY ARTISTS!

DAZZLING COSTUMES!

ENCHANTING MUSIC!

MATCHLESS BALLET!

BEAUTIFUL MARCHES!

GOUGEON SCENIC EFFECTS!

Bring the Children to see the antics of the good SPIDER and the evils of the wicked FLY.

An entertainment embracing everything that is popular: Comedy, Music, Burlesque, Pantomime, Opera and Specialty.

Reserved seat sale opens Saturday morning at Pope & O'Connor's new store, Bailey block.

MONEY TO LOAN AT

10 Per Cent.

For 3 to 5 Years Time on Real Estate in the City of Helena.

No Commissions. Interest payable semi-annually.

MONEY FOR BUILDING PURPOSES.

When titles are perfect there will be no delay in closing loans.

Also money to loan on improved Farms and Ranches in Montana.

H. B. PALMER, Gold Block, Room 12, Second Floor.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the Gould & Cramer Mining company will be held at the office of McConnell, Carter & Clayberg on Friday, Nov. 29th, at 2 p. m.

By order of president, F. E. BACK, Sec.

HELENA, Nov. 19, 1889.

ENTRANCE NOTICE.—CAME TO MY PLACE about one month ago, one bay horse, no brand, away-back, high withers, high hips, small star on forehead, white spot on nose, hind foot white, a few saddle marks.

JOHN D. THOMAS, Three miles from Helena on Two Mile Creek.

GREAT SLAUGHTER SALE

of Combination Suits At
SANDS BROS.

OUR \$6.25 SUITS NOW \$4.50.

OUR \$7.50 SUITS NOW \$5.00.

OUR \$10.00 SUITS NOW \$7.50.

OUR \$11.50 SUITS NOW \$8.50.

OUR \$16.50 SUITS NOW \$12.00.

OUR \$22.50 SUITS NOW 15.00.

Prices Slaughtered Until Sold!
SANDS BROS.

GANS & KLEIN.

EXTRA LARGE MEN,
EXTRA TALL MEN,
EXTRA SHORT MEN,
EXTRA FAT MEN,
EXTRA LEAN MEN

Can all suit themselves with Stylish, Well-Fitting Clothes of Good Material at Reasonable Prices, from our Ready-Made Clothing Department.

MAKING A POINT:

We Make a Point of Insisting Upon the Distinction Between
CHEAP CLOTHING AND CLOTHING CHEAP!

We have Correct Clothing for all Men, Boys and Children, suitable for all occasions and occupations. Our New Stock is all Bright, Clean and Fresh, and at Prices you Cannot Resist.

GANS & KLEIN, HELENA, MONTANA.

THE "NEW YORK."

When you are in need of an Overcoat or Suit, give us a call. Our Line of Clothing is conceded to be the Finest ever shown in Helena. Our Prices are More Reasonable than Elsewhere.

The Famous "STANDARD" Shirts, Fisk, Clark & Flagg's World-Renowned Neckwear and Gloves, Battersby & Sutton Imported Stiff Hats, Stetson's Peerless Soft hats, Full Line of Fur Coats, Caps, Etc.

BOY'S & CHILDREN'S SUITS A SPECIALTY

Clothing and Shirts Made to Measure, at NEW YORK PRICES, and Fit Guaranteed.

ATLAS BUILDING. SHEYER BROS

A. LOGAN. A. C. LOGAN.

LOGAN BROS.,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

FLOUR, FEED AND PRODUCE!

CORNER CLORE and EDWARDS STREETS.

OVERCOATS! OVERCOATS!

This being the season when OVERCOATS are in demand We would call Your Attention to the fact that the

PLYMOUTH CLOTHING HOUSE

is throwing out Greater Inducements than any other house in the city; not only in Overcoats, but also in Clothing and Gents' Furnishing Goods. Space does not permit our mentioning all our Bargains. Call and see us.

LEVY & ELIAS, MAIN STREET.

OUR CHRISTMAS STOCK

IS NOW COMPLETE

Call Before the Assortment is Broken.

FOWLES' CASH STORE!

The Leading Millinery and Fancy Goods House in Montana.